

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of indicating the location of a relatively mobile object, comprising the acts of:

- (a) generating a first signal that is characteristic of a first, relatively immobile object;
- (b) transmitting the first signal from the first relatively immobile object;
- (c) detecting the first signal at a receiver;
- (d) generating a second signal that is characteristic of a second, relatively immobile object;
- (e) transmitting the second signal from the second, relatively immobile object;
- (f) detecting the second signal at the receiver;

(g) generating a third signal that is characteristic of the relatively mobile object;

(h) detecting the third signal at the receiver;

(i) operating a processing device operatively connected to the receiver using signal time-of-flight (t-o-f) data and/or received signal strength information (RSSI) of the first, second and third signals received by the receiver to establish a distance of the relatively mobile object respectively from the first and second relatively immobile objects; and

(j) generating a signal indicating whether the relatively mobile object is closer to the first or the second relatively immobile object.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1 including the act of, before carrying out the act (a):

locating on each of the relatively mobile and the first and second relatively immobile objects a respective portable transmitter that is capable of generating and transmitting said first signal and said second signal.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2 including, after carrying out the locating act:

the act of supplying, via an input device, data to the processing device that associates each said portable transmitter with the object on which it is located.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 3 wherein the act (j) includes assessing data supplied to the processing device whereby the signal indicating whether the relatively mobile object is closer to the first or the second relatively immobile object includes data identifying:

- (1) the relatively mobile object; and
- (2) at least the relatively immobile object to which the relatively mobile object is closer.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the act (i) includes determining the signal t-o-f data by obtaining timing information between first and second devices using

the acts of:

transmitting a first timing signal from the first device to the second device at a first time t_1 relative to a local clock of the first device and measuring a first time of arrival t_2 of the first timing signal at the second device relative to a local clock of the second device;

transmitting a second timing signal from the second device to the first device at a second time t_3 relative to the local clock of the second device and measuring a second time of arrival t_4 of the second timing signal at the first device relative to the local clock of the first device; and

assembling the values of t_1 , t_2 , t_3 and t_4 in a single device.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the act (i) includes a 1-beacon, 2-beacon or 3+-beacon RSSI determination.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the act (j) includes:

carrying out a contextual conversion using a look-up table stored in a memory device to interpret co-ordinates corresponding to locations of the said objects, and generating one or more messages indicative of identity of one or more said objects.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the act locating includes adhering a portable transmitter to each respective object, using an adhesive material.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the act (j) includes:

activating each said portable transmitter from a deactivated state.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9 wherein the act activating includes:

removing each said portable transmitter from a storage location, interaction between each portable transmitter and the storage location maintaining it in the said deactivated state and

the said removing causing the said activation.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 3, wherein the act of supplying includes entering data via one or more of a keyboard, a keypad or a voice input device operatively connected to the processing device.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 3 including, before the act of supplying:
prompting a user as to a class of data, selected from a set of classes, requiring inputting.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 12 wherein the set of classes includes at least:

relatively mobile objects;
relatively immobile objects; and
base stations.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1

including, before the act (j):

interrogating via an input device the processing device as to the location of a said relatively mobile object.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 14 wherein the act of interrogating includes interrogating the processing device via one or more of a keyboard, a keypad or a voice recognition device operatively connected to the receiver.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the act (j) includes transmitting or displaying a message to a user via one or more of a display screen or a speech synthesiser that is operatively connected to the processing device.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for indicating a location of a relatively mobile object, comprising:

a first portable transmitter that is capable of generating and transmitting a first signal characteristic of a first relatively immobile object, the first portable transmitter being locatable on

said first relatively immobile object;

a second portable transmitter that is capable of generating and transmitting a second signal characteristic of a second relatively immobile object, the second portable transmitter being locatable on said second relatively immobile object;

a third portable transmitter that is capable of generating and transmitting a third signal characteristic of said relatively mobile object, the third portable transmitter being locatable on said relatively mobile object;

a receiver that is capable of receiving the first, second and third signals;

a processing device that is capable of establishing, using signal t-o-f data and/or RSSI of the first, second and third signals received by the receiver, a distance of the relatively mobile object respectively from the first and second relatively immobile objects; and

a signal generator capable of generating a signal indicating whether the relatively mobile object is closer to the first or the second relatively immobile object.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 17 including an input device for inputting to the processing device data that associates each portable transmitter with the object on which it is located.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 18 wherein the input device includes one or more of a keyboard, a keypad or a voice input device operatively connected to the processing device.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17 wherein the processing device is programmable and is programmed to establish the distance, by obtaining timing information between first and second devices using the acts of:

transmitting a first timing signal from the first device to the second device at a first time t_1 relative to a local clock of the first device and measuring a first time of arrival t_2 of the first timing signal at the second device relative to a local clock

of the second device;

transmitting a second timing signal from the second device to the first device at a second time t_3 relative to the local clock of the second device and measuring the time of arrival t_4 of the second timing signal at the first device relative to the local clock of the first device; and

assembling the values of t_1 , t_2 , t_3 and t_4 in a single device.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17 wherein the processing device is programmable and is programmed to establish the distance according to a 1-beacon, 2-beacon or 3+- beacon RSSI determination.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17 including an adhesive material for adhering each of said portable transmitters to a respective one of said objects.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 22 wherein each of said portable transmitters includes the adhesive

material permanently secured thereto so as to present an adhesive surface for securing the transmitter to the respective one of said objects.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 17 wherein each of said transmitters is switchable between a deactivated (non-transmitting) and an activated (transmitting) state.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 24 including a storage member for storing thereon each of said portable transmitters at least before first use, the storage member and the transmitter co-operating to maintain the transmitter in its deactivated state until its removal from the storage member on the first use.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 23 wherein the adhesive surface temporarily secures each of said transmitters to the storage member at least before first use of the

transmitter.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 25 wherein the storage member is or includes a flexible sheet to which each transmitter is secured before first use.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 25, wherein the storage member includes a respective member that co-operate with each of said transmitters stored thereon before first use in order to maintain the deactivated state of the said transmitter.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 18 including an output device operatively connected to the processing device.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 29 wherein the processing device is programmable and is programmed to generate a prompt as to data requiring entry via the data entry

device and as appropriate display or transmit the prompt via the output device.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 29 wherein the output device includes one or more of a display screen or a speech synthesiser.

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein the processing device is programmable and is programmed to carry out a contextual conversion on data indicative of the said first relatively immobile object or second relatively immobile object to which the relatively mobile object is closer.